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Statement of Senator Jim Risch on the Inauguration of President Barack Obama

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"Inauguration day reminds us what a great country we live in. To transfer power in the highest office of the land in a peaceful and orderly fashion is a confirmation that our Founding Fathers put in place a remarkable system of government. President Obama's speech was a powerful message to our friends and enemies that Americans want peace, but that we will not hesitate to defend freedom. He also reaffirmed our commitment to a free market system that has given us the quality of life we all enjoy. While we face serious challenges at this time, the new president will bring a great deal of energy and commitment to resolve these issues. I look forward to working with him and others to move our country forward. I pledge to work with him where I can. All Americans should be proud of this day and what our country represents to the world."